

Attorney Docket No.: J6866(C)  
Serial No.: 10/712,490  
Filed: November 13, 2003  
Confirmation No.: 8338

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment prior to examining this Request for Continued Examination on the merits. Claims 1-11 and 17-20 remain pending.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 12-1155, including all required fees under: 37 C.F.R. §1.16; 37 C.F.R. §1.17; 37 C.F.R. §1.18; 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.